

# memorandum

To: Jamie Kowalczk EDR Project No: 18009

From: Sam Gordon

Date: October 1, 2019

Members Present: Jamie Kowalczk, Sarah Krisch, Scott Ingmire

EDR Team: Sam Gordon, Lizette Lewis, Erica Tauzer

Meeting: Madison County Old Erie Canal

Local Waterfront Revitalization Project (LWRP)

Public Meeting 2 Notes September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM

#### Comments:

The Public Meeting began at 4: 00 PM following the Old Erie Canal Community Working Group meeting. The meeting was interactive in an open house style with display boards presented in stations providing an overview of the LWRP Planning Context, Project Area, Summary of Results from Meeting 1 and Project Lists for each Municipality in the WRA.

(Comments are verbatim as provided)

### **General Comments**

#### Comment 1

- Dredge downtown Canastota, picture if water gets too high- it will flood Saunder St.
   Chapel St.
- Remove beaver dams, clean up entire canal including Wampsville and Oneida areas for better flow for kayaks and family entertainment features.
- Historical importance

#### Comment 2

- The canal should be dredged and properly maintained.
- Very interesting idea hope it carries through.

#### Comment 3:

• Oneida county politicians and bureaucracies need to throw some real interest in revitalization of the Old Erie Canal.

#### Comment 4:

Canastota project- need to add kayak/canoe launch sites on both sides of Peterboro St.

#### Comment 5

- What is the website where we can find all the project area maps? tour the towpath.
- Dredge the Canastota section canal
- Build the pocket neighborhood project.
- Do the kayak launch
- Remove the culvert & regain The Canal Town Cluster

#### Comment 6

- The canal from Durhamville to New London changed about 10 years ago now there is no water but 10 years ago there was
- It was never the same after the Oneida Creek Aqueduct had a leak. The water never returned to our section even after repair work to the aqueduct was done

#### Comment 7

- I took pictures of the canal through the Town of Verona before I came to this meeting (shows pictures) and there is no water in it. It didn't use to be like this.
- Mosquitos are especially bad this year

#### Comment 8

- We paddled the canal [in Town of Verona] all the time 10 years ago. My husband even built me a ramp to put my boat in. Now there is no water.
- I hate to say it, but if the water won't be restored [in Town of Verona] then I think it should be filled in

### **Board: Village of Chittenango**

- Retiree housing along eastern edge of Chittenango. Market retiree housing along the Erie Canal.
- Residential Condo's retirement housing project.

# **Board: Village of Canastota**

- Ride all Canal Kayak launches 12 x 8 timbres.
- Sunken boats at Durhamville and State Bridge at wide waters.
- Aqueduct at Brandy Brook where keystone is in need of repair
- They used to burn the canal in Durhamville to get rid of fallen trees.
- Durhamville vets club (600 people) wants to adopt the aqueduct in Durhamville.
- Trapping 30 per muskrats per day
- Need launch sites on both sides of Petersboro St., for kayak and canoes.

# **Board 3: Village of Wampsville**

• Develop-make a reality- Lenox Basin Park\_ primitive camping. Plus, for Erie Canalway trail users. Show everyone the historical plans Jamie!

### **Board 4: City of Oneida**

- Lenox basin boundary. Erie Canal to the north. Csx Railroad to the south. Court St. to the west. Cowaselon (sp) to the east.
- Parking areas for local people.
- Bring people into Oneida from Erie Canal. Connect to Oneida Rail Trail signs/sharrows. Work with city to clean sides (shoulders).

### **Board: Town of Verona**

- Needs repair- Brandy Brook Aqueduct Veterans club Durhamville could help! Brandy Brook wide waters: could have archeological sites.
- Durhamville septic systems feed into the canal.
- Informational kiosks along the canal.
- The waters from Durhamville to New London is a dangerous disgrace. Floating algae, decay & overgrown plants. Dredging is needed. My memories cannot behand down to my grandchildren. Ice skating, fishing, boating.
- 1-2 aqueducts between Germany Rd. & Route 31 are leaking.
- Aqueducts are leaking to where there is virtually no water flow. Also lack of maintenance keeping the wood from plugging them up. Trees falling in the canal. An eyesore.
- Canal is a disgrace- mosquito haven! Sewage floating on top.
- Canoed from Durhamville to New London approximately 10 years ago.
- All these comments are correct. Durhamvile to State Bridge is a disgrace.
- Need to clean out sediment on Route 31/State Bridge. We used to be able to fish there. Clean out trees.
- Water level, pavilion, clean overwalk.
- Aqueduct
- Water level has decreased in past 10 years. Downed trees and cattails.

### **Board: Town of Manlius**

• Higginsville feeder, Durhamville feeder, Durhamville Vets Club 315-363-3810

### **Board: Project Spotlight- the Water**

- Many people hike the trails to appreciate natural beauty. Black top should not be used as it is problematic for hikers.
- Raise the water level. Repair and maintain the aqueduct at Cowaselon Creek and Oneida Creek aqueduct. Remove all down trees and cut other large overhanging ones.
- Trail maintenance needs to be enhanced. More regular mowing, organized cleaning effort; besides the annual clean up event. Additional municipality partnerships.

# **Board: Project Spotlight- Corridor-Wide:**

• Near Durhamville (Higginsville to New London, 8 min stretch): severe problem with water quality. In the past 5-6 years the canal has worsened, low water levels, lots of cattails, lots of mosquitos, needs dredging and waterflow.

# **Miscellaneous Comment:**

• Subscribe to Bottoming Out Magazine NY Canal Society

# **Copies To:** Madison County Planning Department

These meeting minutes have been prepared by Sam Gordon of EDR. If there are any discrepancies, please notify our office within three business days of receipt.